

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION relating to child abuse and neglect awareness.

2 WHEREAS, the 2016 Child Maltreat Report published by the United States
3 Department of Health and Human Services reports that 19 out of every 1,000 Kentucky
4 children have been victimized by child abuse or neglect; and

5 WHEREAS, according to the 2016 Child Maltreat Report, Kentucky is burdened
6 with the second highest rate of child abuse and neglect in the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, the General Assembly aspires to protect Kentucky's children by
8 eradicating child abuse and neglect across the Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, educating Kentucky's children about the signs of child abuse and
10 neglect empowers children to recognize instances of abuse and neglect; and

11 WHEREAS, educating Kentucky's students about how to report child abuse and
12 neglect shows the silent victims of abuse and neglect that they have a trusted person to
13 talk to in our schools;

14 NOW, THEREFORE,

15 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

16 ➔Section 1. Schools across Kentucky are strongly encouraged to recognize April
17 6 of each year as Child Abuse Prevention Day in the Commonwealth. On this day,
18 Kentucky schools are encouraged to educate their students about the signs of child abuse
19 and neglect and how to report child abuse or neglect to a trusted adult.

20 ➔Section 2. The Kentucky Department of Education shall develop age-
21 appropriate sample lesson plans and video and written materials on how to recognize and
22 report child abuse and neglect. The department shall provide all Kentucky public schools
23 electronic access to the sample lesson plans and materials prior to April 6, 2020.
24 Kentucky public schools may use the materials developed by the department to recognize
25 Child Abuse Prevention Day in the Commonwealth.